

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed December 18, 2001 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 8, 22, 36 and 37 have been amended. Applicants have included herewith a document entitled, "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE" to indicate how the claims have been amended. No new subject matter has been added. New claims 38-61 have been added. Therefore, claims 8-61 are currently pending.

It is noted that Applicants have herewith filed a communication regarding the resubmission of a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement of which Applicants have not yet received notice of receipt by the Patent Office. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement cites 10 previously unconsidered references. Consideration of the resubmitted items is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the re-submitted Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Furthermore, it is noted that a second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith in order to bring two additional references to the Examiner's attention. It is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the Form 1449 for the second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

### **Double Patenting**

The Examiner rejected claims 8-37 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 5,937,131. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. To obviate the rejection, however, a terminal disclaimer of the term extending beyond the term of U.S. Patent 5,937,131 has been filed herewith.

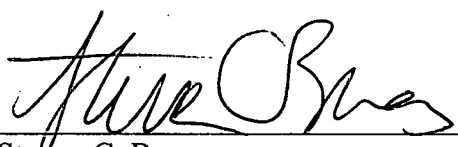
Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (claims 8-61) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.



Date April 8, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P. O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven C. Bruess  
Reg. No. 34,130  
SCB:PSTjt

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the claims**

The claims have been amended as follows:

8. (Amended) A cable exit trough mountable to a lateral trough section, the lateral trough section including an upstanding side having substantially uniform height and terminating at a top edge, the exit trough comprising:

an upper portion having a curved bottom trough surface and two curved side walls extending from opposite sides of the bottom trough surface to define [an] a cable exit [cable] pathway, the curved bottom trough surface being sufficiently curved to maintain a cable minimum bend radius;

the cable exit trough being releasably mountable to the lateral trough section;

wherein, when mounted to the lateral trough, the cable exit pathway extends transversely over the top edge of the upstanding side of the lateral trough section so that cable can be routed upwardly from the lateral trough section over the top edge of the lateral trough section.

22. (Amended) A cable routing system comprising:

a lateral trough section, the lateral trough section having a bottom portion and two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway, at least one of the upstanding sides having substantially uniform height and terminating at a top edge spaced from the bottom portion; and

a cable exit trough, the cable exit trough including a cable guiding portion having a curved cable exit surface and two side walls extending therefrom to define a cable exit pathway;

wherein the cable exit trough is releasably mountable to the lateral trough section with the cable exit pathway extending over the top edge of the lateral trough section so that cable can be routed upwardly from the lateral trough section, and then over the top edge of the lateral trough section.

36. (Amended) A cable exit trough mountable to a lateral trough section, the lateral trough section including an upstanding side terminating at a top edge, the exit trough comprising:

an upper portion having a bottom trough surface and two curved side walls extending from opposite sides of the bottom trough surface to define [an] a cable exit [cable] pathway;

a lower portion engageable with the lateral trough section;

the cable exit trough being releasably mountable to the lateral trough section without cutting the top edge and corresponding upstanding side;

wherein, when mounted to the lateral trough, the cable exit pathway extends transversely over the top edge of the upstanding side of the lateral trough section so that cable can be routed upwardly from the lateral trough section over the top edge of the lateral trough section.

37. (Amended) A cable routing system comprising:

a lateral trough section, the lateral trough section having a bottom portion and two upstanding sides extending from the bottom portion to define a cable pathway, the upstanding sides terminating at a top edge spaced from the bottom portion; and

a cable exit trough, the cable exit trough including a cable guiding portion having a cable exit surface and two side walls extending therefrom to define a cable exit pathway, the

exit surface and at least one sidewall being curved to maintain a cable minimum bend radius;

wherein the cable exit trough is releasably mountable to the lateral trough section with the cable exit pathway extending over the top edge of the lateral trough section so that cable can be routed upwardly from the lateral trough section, and then over the top edge of the lateral trough section;

wherein the cable exit trough mounts to the lateral trough section without cutting the top edge and corresponding upstanding side.

New claims 38-61 have been added.

B